

## Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

J.B. Pritzker Governor Mario Treto, Jr. Secretary

CECILIA ABUNDIS
Acting Director
Division of Professional Regulation

## STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

PROCLAMATION TO INVOKE EMERGENCY POWERS TO MODIFY PROFESSIONAL LICENSE AND CERTIFICATION STATUTES AND REGULATIONS FOR ILLINOIS LICENSED PHARMACISTS TO ORDER AND ADMINISTER COVID-19 THERAPEUTICS SUBCUTANEOUSLY, INTRAMUSCULARLY, OR ORALLY AS AUTHORIZED, APPROVED, OR LICENSED BY THE U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA).

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act (20 ILCS 3305/7) ("IEMA"), the Governor of the State of Illinois has issued a proclamation declaring that a public health emergency exists related to the COVID-19 outbreak in the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, as the Governor of the State of Illinois, pursuant to Sections 7(1), 7(2), 7(8), and 7(12) of IEMA, ordered during the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamations, the requirement in the Section 2105-400 of the Civil Administrative Code, 20 ILCS 2105-400, and its accompanying regulations, authorizing the Secretary of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation ("IDFPR") to take certain actions to increase the number of licensed professionals responding to the disaster is suspended to the extent it limits the Secretary's authority to those persons working under the direction of the IEMA and the Illinois Department of Public Health ("IDPH") pursuant to a declared disaster by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, the Governor further ordered that the requirement that the Secretary shall only exercise this authority "in coordination with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Public Health" remains in effect and that in exercising this authority, the Secretary shall work closely with the Directors of IEMA and IDPH to ensure any impacted licensed professionals are aiding in the response to the disaster; and

WHEREAS, on September 14, 2021, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS"), Office of the Secretary issued a 9th Amendment to Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID—19, available at <a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-09-14/pdf/2021-19790.pdf">https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-09-14/pdf/2021-19790.pdf</a>, which

recommends authorizing pharmacists and qualified pharmacy technicians and pharmacy interns to administer COVID-19 therapeutics subcutaneously, intramuscularly, or orally as authorized, approved, or licensed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), under certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, Section 2105-400(a)(1) of the Illinois Civil Administrative Code (20 ILCS 2105) authorizes the Secretary of the IDFPR to suspend the requirements for permanent licensure of persons who are licensed in another state, and modify the scope of practice restrictions under any licensing act administered by the Department; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of IDFPR has coordinated a response to the declared public health emergency with IEMA and IDPH, including by expanding the scope of practice of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in order to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, under the Illinois Pharmacy Practice Act, 225 ILCS 85, the practice of pharmacy means, among other things, the vaccination of patients 7 years of age and older pursuant to a valid prescription or standing order that has been ordered by a licensed physician, upon completion of appropriate training, including how to address contraindications and adverse reactions, with notification to the patient's physician and appropriate record retention or pursuant to hospital pharmacy and therapeutics committee policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, under the Illinois Pharmacy Practice Act, a registered pharmacy technician, is authorized to assist licensed pharmacists in the practice of pharmacy, under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist; and

WHEREAS, under the Illinois Pharmacy Practice Act, a registered pharmacy technician may be delegated to perform any task within the practice of pharmacy if specifically trained for that task, except for patient counseling, drug regimen review, and clinical conflict resolution.

THEREFORE, the Acting Secretary of IDFPR, Mario Treto, Jr., hereby orders the following, pursuant to his authority under 20 ILCS 2105-400(a)(1):

- 1. An Illinois-licensed pharmacist's scope of practice under the Pharmacy Practice Act, is expanded to order and administer COVID-19 therapeutics subcutaneously, intramuscularly, or orally as authorized, approved, or licensed by the FDA, pursuant to the following conditions as set forth in the HHS 9th Amendment:
  - a. the COVID-19 therapeutic must be authorized, approved, or licensed by the FDA;
  - b. the COVID-19 therapeutic must be administered subcutaneously, intramuscularly, or orally in accordance with the FDA approval, authorization, or licensing;

- c. the pharmacist must complete a practical training program that is approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). This training program must include hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of COVID-19 therapeutics, the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to COVID-19 therapeutics, and any additional training required in the FDA approval, authorization, or licensing;
- d. the pharmacist must have a current certificate in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation;
- e. the pharmacist must comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements of the jurisdiction in which the pharmacist administers COVID-19 therapeutics, including informing the patient's primary-care provider when available and complying with requirements with respect to reporting adverse events; and
- f. the pharmacist must comply with any applicable requirements (or conditions of use) that apply to the administration of COVID-19 therapeutics.
- 2. An Illinois-licensed pharmacy technician's and Illinois-licensed pharmacy intern's ("student pharmacist") scope of practice under the Pharmacy Practice Act, 225 ILCS 85, is expanded to administer COVID-19 therapeutics subcutaneously, intramuscularly, or orally as authorized, approved, or licensed by the FDA, under the supervision of an appropriately trained Illinois-licensed pharmacist, pursuant to the following conditions as set forth in the HHS 9th Amendment:
  - a. the COVID-19 therapeutic must be authorized, approved, or licensed by the FDA;
  - b. the COVID-19 therapeutic must be administered subcutaneously, intramuscularly, or orally in accordance with the FDA approval, authorization, or licensing;
  - c. the pharmacy technician or student pharmacist must complete a practical training program that is approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). This training program must include hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of COVID-19 therapeutics, the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to COVID-19 therapeutics, and any additional training required in the FDA approval, authorization, or licensing;
  - d. the pharmacy technician or student pharmacist must have a current certificate in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation;
  - e. the pharmacy technician or student pharmacist must comply with any applicable requirements (or conditions of use) that apply to the administration of COVID-19 therapeutics;
  - f. the supervising pharmacist must comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements of the jurisdiction in which the pharmacy technician or student pharmacist administers COVID-19 therapeutics, including informing the patient's primary-care provider when available and complying with requirements with respect to reporting adverse events; and
  - g. the supervising pharmacist must be readily and immediately available to the pharmacy technicians and student pharmacists.
- 3. Licensees covered by this Proclamation must be appropriately trained and are subject to all provisions of the Pharmacy Practice Act and its Rules, as applicable, relating to the standards of care.
- 4. This Order does not apply to any licensee who holds an Illinois license as a pharmacist,

pharmacy technician, or student pharmacist that is revoked, suspended, or otherwise encumbered.

5. This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect until throughout the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION of the State of Illinois; MARIO TRETO JR., ACTING SECRETARY,

Mario Treto Ir., Acting Secretary

September 30, 2021

Date